2: Williams E, G-5 (1923-1925) 1928
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137 edible fruits are rare, there is a very fine red or yellow
262 ball called *Hega* which is plentiful and which annoys the thirsty traveller by its resemblance to an orange. It is in fact, as the natives say, only food for devils.

3. *Garden Products: their Introduction and Distribution*

244 The products of native horticulture in the Northern Division may be roughly classified. The list opposite is fairly complete in the more important items.

In addition to the list there are some garden herbs and plants used as spinach, or flavouring to the cooked taro. The native names of the most important, as far as I know them, are *Ombi*, *Taramu*, and *Nyaditi*. Lastly,
247 there is a list of ornamental plants—croton in countless varieties, striated dracaena, crimson amaranth, and flame-coloured or magenta coxcombs—which add much to the brightness and charm of a village or a sunny garden-clearing, and which have in some cases a magical as well as an ornamental value; and besides these a number of scented plants which a native loves for their own sake and for the seductive fragrance which is meant to make him an irresistible lover.

244 If we select the products which are of real importance to the Orokaiva they will make a much shorter list. They
245 are taro (the staple diet), yams, and sweet potatoes (both of them no more than subsidiary), *ina* and sugar-cane, bananas and plantains, coco-nut and betel palms.

244 The Orokaiva are essentially taro people. The plant is grown universally and in a great number of varieties.[1] It is easily cultivated, nutritious, and, prepared by a native housewife, very appetizing. The cook's habit of
252 spraying condiments out of her mouth over the pot may daunt the inquisitive European who would otherwise be willing to sample her work, but there is no denying

[1] I have the names of seventeen varieties, distinguishable by various properties of leaf, stalk, tuber, &c. There are no doubt many more. Codrington notes the great variety of taro. Of yams, incidentally, he listed no less than eighty varieties in the small island of Mota (Codrington, *Melanesians*, pp. 304, 319).